

Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Russ Adams <russ@metrostability.org>
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 12:29 PM
To: barry@bfclegg.com; jaybadheartbull@me.com; cohendan1@msn.com; colex044@comcast.net; corbinconnell@gmail.com; xmargedolan@comcast.net; todd.ferrara@standardheating.com; jbgarcia3@aol.com; djheinle@cmarch.com; invisionit@msn.com; kozaknsa@mm.com; barrylaz@gmail.com; blickness@yahoo.com; jkmassey@earthlink.net; singdancesavetheworld@gmail.com; jahp2691@yahoo.com; srichardson7@comcast.net; arubenstein@schaeferlaw.com; jfschartercomm@comcast.net; gthaden@gmail.com; adosh.unni@gmail.com; Redistricting2012; Larry Hiscock
Subject: Comments on Minneapolis Redistricting Maps - Ward 5

March 23, 2012

c/o City Clerks Office

Room 304 City Hall

350 South 5th Street

Minneapolis, MN 55415

Redistricting Group Members:

I am writing to support the Ward 5 Boundaries proposed in the March 7th Redistricting Group Meeting. Thank you for responding to concerns raised by residents that would have been negatively impacted by ward lines dividing the community. The proposed redistricting map addresses most of the concerns raised by Harrison residents.

The March 7th Ward Maps achieves the following:

1. **Keeps Harrison whole:** Harrison is small geographically and a demographically isolated neighborhood. Splitting the neighborhood would dilute the representation of the neighborhood at the city council.
2. **Keeps Harrison in Ward 5:** Federal Law requires that racial and language minorities have a fair opportunity to elect representatives of their choice. Harrison is demographically more similar to the 5th Ward. Remaining in 5th Ward allows residents the opportunity to elect a representative of their choice that will address community priorities. Harrison is radically different demographically and economically when compared to the 7th Ward. If included in Ward 7, Harrison voters would lose the

opportunity to elect a representative of their choice and secure representation on issues critical to their lives.

3. **Protects Northside Representation of Northside Opportunity:** Previous redistricting maps show Harrison split down Glenwood Avenue and removed the Bassett Creek Valley from Ward 5. This would have violated the Charter Commission principle of keeping contiguous land together. Harrison residents agree with the principle that contiguous land with similar zoning should be in the same Ward. The March 7th Draft Ward Map is a significant improvement returning the Harrison business community back to the 5th Ward. It also includes the contiguous land of the Minneapolis Impound Lot that is only accessible through Harrison and North Minneapolis.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.



Russ Adams

Alliance for Metropolitan Stability

Suite 200

2525 E. Franklin Ave.

Minneapolis, MN 55406

(w) 612-332-4471

(c) 612-964-1647

russ@metrostability.org

www.metrostability.org

Connecting People, Places and Issues